

DEHD FAQ

TEMPORARY BANNERS

Answers to frequently asked questions on the permitting procedure for display of temporary banners and allowable display locations in the city of Harrisburg

The Department of Building and Housing Development receives many requests for information on hanging temporary banners from structures and across streets in the City.

Temporary banners should announce gatherings, festivals performances, fund-raisers and other special events of public benefit. Banners may not be used for off-site advertising of commercial enterprises or as political signage.

In order to maintain uniformity in the appearance of City streets and to protect public safety, individuals and groups who desire to place banners anywhere within the City limits must obtain Zoning approval and a Building Permit. Permits may be obtained from the Bureau of Codes, 2nd floor, City Government Center.

Banners on or Between Buildings

Banners displayed on your own building or between two buildings require Zoning approval and a building permit, a drawing of the banner and description of how the banner will be attached. Banners displayed on buildings that you don't own also require written permission from the building owner(s). If suspended over a roadway, banners must be hung at least 17 feet above the ground.

Banners displayed on buildings may not remain in place more than 21 days in any 90 day period.

Banners across streets, suspended from street light and electrical poles

Banners that cross streets require a drawing of the banner, name of company hanging the banner, permission from

the City of Harrisburg City Engineer's Office, Zoning approval and a Building Permit. The bottom of the banner may not be lower than 17 feet above the roadway.

Because most decorative light poles are not high enough or strong enough from which to suspend banners, only aluminum or wooden poles of 20 feet or higher may be used.

Electrical poles are owned by PPL. These poles may sometimes have streetlights attached to them and are identified by two sets of numbers embossed in metal plates, nailed one above each other. Banners may only be attached to these poles with permission from PPL. To obtain permission you must submit a pole use application form that specifies the poles you wish to use. Forms may be downloaded from www.pplweb.com/delivering_energy/poleattachment/index.htm, by calling (717) 560-2482 or by mail: PPL Electric Utility, 651 Delp Road, Lancaster, PA 17601.

A copy of the PPL approval form must be included when applying for Zoning approval and a Building Permit.

Light Pole Banner Rods

Many light poles in the City have short rods to be used for the display of vertical banners. Use of these banner rods is limited to City initiatives such as neighborhood identification, seasonal decoration and development promotion.



Banners on the Walnut Street Walking Bridge

Only sponsors' banners may be displayed on this bridge during City sponsored events. For more information on sponsorships of City events call the City Special Events Office, (717) 255-3020.

Banners on the M. Harvey Taylor and Market Street Bridges

No banners may be displayed on these bridges.

Banners on Railroad bridges and Strawberry Square Walking Bridge

These bridges are privately owned. Permission to hang banners from these structures must be granted by the owners. The railroad bridge that crosses the 400 block of S. Front and S. Second Streets near Paxton St. is owned by Norfolk Southern; contact person is Minor Johnson, phone: (215) 209-4268. The railroad bridge that crosses the 200 block of S. Front and S. Second Streets near Mulberry St. is owned by Amtrak; contact person is Bill Farina at Viacom, phone: (215) 671-8411.

For information on the Strawberry Square Walk-

ing Bridge contact Tracy Tressler at Strawberry Square, phone: 255-1038.

Physical Banner Placement

Once you have received a permit to display a banner, a professional sign company must be employed to put the banner in place. They will be responsible for properly placing or hanging banners, securing appropriate traffic clearances and removal of banners due to damage or at the conclusion of the event.

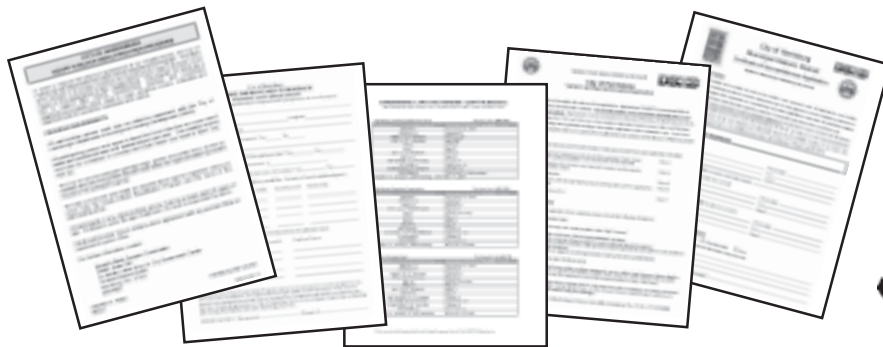
The City of Harrisburg can not place banners for any individual or organization with the exception of locations, programs or events that are administered by the City.

For more information about hanging banners in the City visit the City Website: www.harrisburgpa.gov or call 255-6428 and select Zoning from the Special Service Menu.

Dan Leppo, Deputy Director for Planning; Joe Link, City Engineer; Christian Mostert, Urban Planner and Glenn White, Special Events Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, contributed to this article.

Looking for a Building Permit to hang a banner?

Before you call or visit City Hall, visit the Harrisburg City website:



www.harrisburgPA.gov

**Many forms issued by the Bureaus of Housing, Planning and Codes are available including:
Home Improvement Loan applications, Land Use applications
and soon, Guides to Harrisburg Zoning.**